Page 2 of 10

Listing of Claims.

Please amend the claims as shown below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.

- 1-5. (Canceled).
- (Currently amended) Nucleic An isolated nucleic acid sequence encoding:

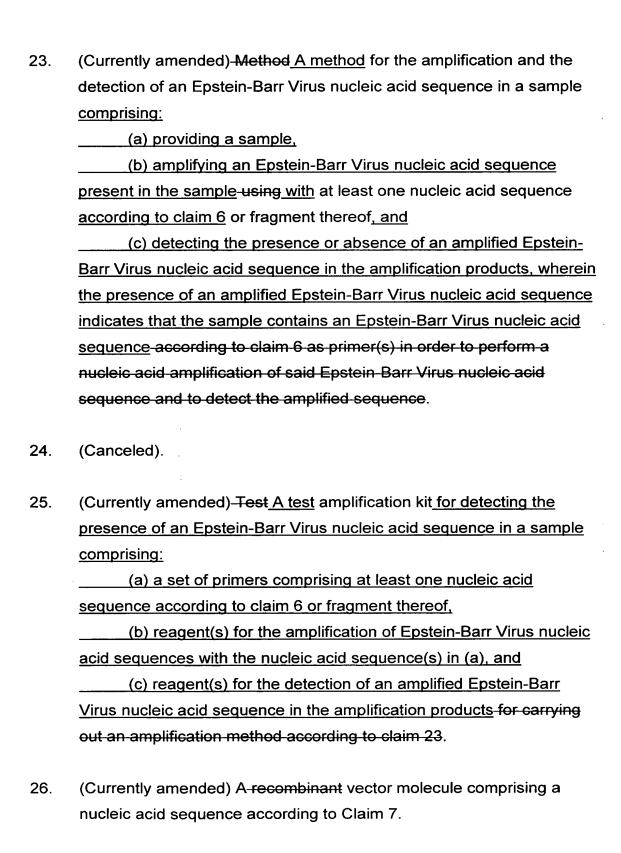
 (a) a peptide immunochemically reactive with antibodies to the Epstein Barr Virus (EBV), comprising at least part of the VCA-p18 or
 - VCA-p40 protein, encoded within the EBV open reading frames BFRF3 and BdRF1, respectively, or

(b) a functional variant-thereof of said peptide described in (a).

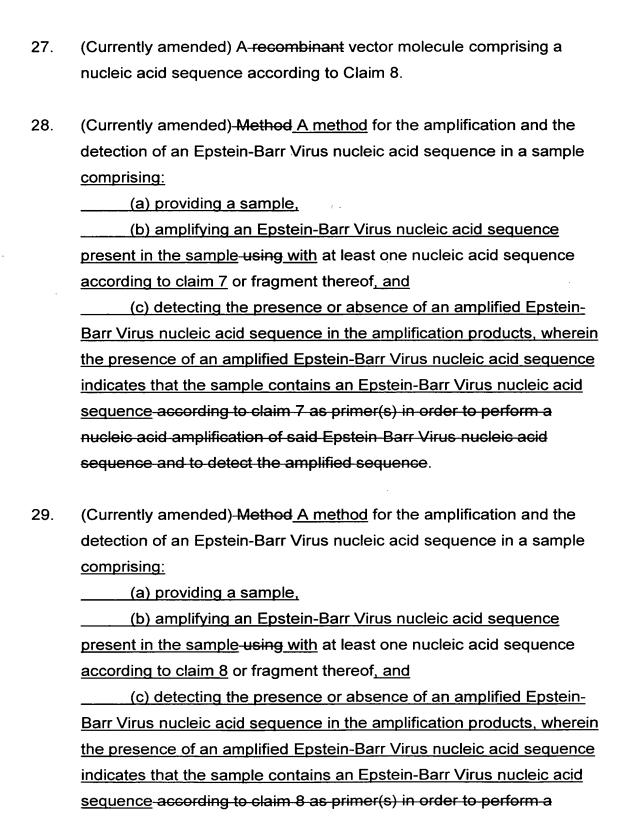
- 7. (Currently amended) Nucleic An isolated nucleic acid sequence, comprising at least part of the nucleic acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO.: 1 or a subsequence thereof encoding an Epstein-Barr Virus peptide that is immunochemically reactive with antibodies to the Epstein-Barr Virus.
- 8. (Currently amended) Nucleic An isolated nucleic acid sequence, comprising at least part of the nucleic acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO.: 3 or a subsequence thereof encoding an Epstein-Barr Virus peptide that is immunochemically reactive with antibodies to the Epstein-Barr Virus.
- (Currently amended) A-recombinant vector molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence according to claim 6.

10-22. (Canceled).

Page 3 of 10



Page 4 of 10



Page 5 of 10

nucleic acid amplification of said Epstein-Barr Virus nucleic acid sequence and to detect the amplified sequence.

- 30. (New) A test amplification kit for detecting the presence of an Epstein-Barr Virus nucleic acid sequence in a sample comprising:
 - (a) a set of primers comprising at least one nucleic acid sequence according to claim 7 or fragment thereof,
 - (b) reagent(s) for the amplification of Epstein-Barr Virus nucleic acid sequences with the nucleic acid sequence(s) in (a), and
 - (c) reagent(s) for the detection of an amplified Epstein-Barr Virus nucleic acid sequence in the amplification products.
- 31. (New) A test amplification kit for detecting the presence of an Epstein-Barr Virus nucleic acid sequence in a sample comprising:
 - (a) a set of primers comprising at least one nucleic acid sequence according to claim 8 or fragment thereof,
 - (b) reagent(s) for the amplification of Epstein-Barr Virus nucleic acid sequences with the nucleic acid sequence(s) in (a), and
 - (c) reagent(s) for the detection of an amplified Epstein-Barr Virus nucleic acid sequence in the amplification products.